

dence without an executive countenance. The Peruvian government has also increased the duties on all imports from 25 to 30 per cent.

HELENA, Mont., Aug. 29.—The town of Elliston was practically wiped out by fire this morning. The only buildings left standing are Ed Burns's store, which is the postoffice, and the Northern Pacific depot, which stands apart from the town across right of way. Flames broke out in Logan's livery stable about 3 o'clock and spread rapidly. The stable was located about the middle of the main street, and the fire swept both ways from it. The buildings were all frame and burned like tinder, despite the efforts of a large bucket brigade that worked incessantly for several hours. Eight or ten houses were destroyed, including two hotels, butcher shop and several saloons and stores. Many people will be without shelter tonight unless tents are procured.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—The President granted before leaving Washington a pardon to Charles Hampton, sentenced in Utah to nine months' imprisonment for adultery (to restore citizenship); John Roody, sentenced in Texas to five years' imprisonment and a fine for manslaughter; commuted to one year.

OMAHA, Aug. 29.—Several hundred commonwealers en route west are stalled in Omaha unable to secure transportation. The county has refused further food to the returning army. In view of the present call for aid, and what indications are for the future, the commissioners seem of the opinion that they have about reached the point where a new method of treating the question of county relief must be inaugurated. Investigations have been quietly going on and a mass of cases has been gathered which go to show that a constant and persistent series of frauds have been practiced on the board. The commissioners in speaking of the matter, declare a step must be taken at once to put a stop to such procedures. The men are scattered through the city and are at a loss to know what to do for food.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 29.—A prominent lumber firm of this city has filed a protest against the decision of Collector Fomeroy, which will necessitate a test of the constitutionality of the new tariff bill. The firm imported on August 15th a carload of lumber, on which, under the McKinley bill the duties would have been \$97.50. This they paid under protest, claiming that the new bill should go into effect August 1st and that they were entitled to bring in lumber free after that date, regardless of the time at which the bill passed. The protest will be submitted to the board of general appraisers at New York, and if they overrule it the case will be taken into the United States courts.

NEW YORK, Aug. 30.—It is expected that one of the greatest strikes this city has ever witnessed will be inaugurated September 1st. The building trades conference appealed some time ago to the board of walking delegates to take some steps looking toward the abolition of the system adopted by a great many contractors of employing materials produced by cheap convict labor. The board investigated the complaint, and last March gave notice to architects and

building contractors that if the practice of employing the materials in question was continued after September 1st of this year strikes would be authorized on every building affected.

LAVAL, France, Aug. 30.—The execution of Abbe Bruneau, formerly vicar of the church at Entremmes, convicted of the murder of Abbe Fricot, passed off more quietly than the authorities anticipated. Fully 8,000 people were present.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 30.—A dispatch from Batavia says Matarim, the capital of the island of Lombok, where the Dutch troops recently met with serious reverses at the hands of the Balinese is in possession of the rebels and being bombarded by the Dutch fleet.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 30.—The census office gave to the public today the principal results of the investigation of farmers' home proprietorship in all the states and territories. This is the first investigation of the kind ever conducted in any country. Of the 12,269,125 families in the whole country almost 48 per cent own their farms and homes and the rest hire. Of the families owning farms and homes almost 28 per cent have incumbrances, and over 72 per cent have no incumbrances. The number of resident owners of land in the United States is 6,066,417, to which must be added any land owners who may be living in tenement families. The farm families number 4,676,171, of which 68 per cent own their farms and others hire. Of the owning families over 28 per cent have incumbrances on their farms.

In 1880 25.56 per cent of the farms were hired. In the cities that contain over 100,000 population there are 1,948,834 home families, of which almost 23 per cent own, subject to encumbrance. Among the cities having 100,000 population and over, New York has the highest percentage of home tenancy, nearly 93.67; Boston is next, with 81.57 per cent; Brooklyn, third, with 81.44; Jersey City, 81.20; Cincinnati, 80.12; Baltimore, 73.94; Buffalo, 60.03; Chicago, 71.27; Cleveland, 60.90; Denver, 70.89; Minneapolis, 68.80; San Francisco, 78.46; and Washington, 74.80. The smallest percentage is 56, representing Rochester, N. Y.

Bringing the urban population into contrast with the non-urban population, almost 44 per cent of 4,224,560 home families living outside of cities and towns of 8,000 people, own their homes, and 56 per cent hire. Of the owning families, 77 per cent own without incumbrance. The value of the 1,696,808 incumbered farms and homes is \$5,687,296,069, and the incumbrances aggregate \$2,162,944,653 or 37.50 per cent of the value.

Of the incumbrances on farms and homes over 22 per cent bears interest at rates less than 6 per cent, 34 per cent at the rate of 6 per cent, 33 per cent at rates greater than 6 per cent, and 11 per cent at rates greater than 8 per cent.

The advance of value of each owned and incumbered farm in the United States is \$3,444; of each incumbered home, \$3,250, and the average incumbrance of each of the farms is \$1,224; on each incumbered home, \$1,293.

The 886,977 farms subject to incumbrance are worth \$3,054,165, and the incumbrance is \$1,085,995,960, or 35.55

per cent of the value. The 809,933 homes subject to incumbrance are valued at \$2,632,374,840, and the incumbrance is \$1,046,953,603, or 39.77 per cent of the value.

NEW YORK, Aug. 30.—William L. Helfrich, living on West Fortieth street, was arrested this afternoon at the office of Charles A. Baldwin & Co., stock brokers, on a telegram from the chief of police of Ogden, Utah. The dispatch stated Helfrich was wanted in that place on three indictments, charging him with embezzlement of public funds while the treasurer of Ogden in 1891.

He was remanded here today to await extradition papers.

DENVER, Aug. 31.—Governor Waite was a witness today before U. S. Commissioner Hinsdale in the case against himself, President Mullins, of the police board, Chief of Police Armstrong and Police Matron Dwyer, for withholding from ex-Matron Likens a letter or her. Waite denied the conspiracy absolutely. The letter, he said, was given him to read. After reading it he handed it back. He considered it of little importance. He was opposed to the removal of Mrs. Likens and never gave Mrs. Dwyer any encouragement to expect the place.

At the conclusion of the arguments Commissioner Hinsdale discharged Governor Waite and held the other defendants to the United States grand jury in the sum of \$500 each.

LONDON, Aug. 31.—The Cunard line steamer Campania which sailed from New York Aug. 25, arrived in Queenstown today, breaking the record. She made the passage in five days, 10 hours, 47 minutes. Heretofore the eastward record has been five days, 12 hours, 47 minutes, made November, 1893, by the Campania. The Campania experienced dense fogs on the banks for nine hours and was forced to run at greatly reduced speed. Her average speed was 21.50 knots which has only twice been beaten, on both occasions by the Lucania, which in March covered 21.54 knots, and in June 21.89.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 31.—The trolley car on the Ashville and Sulphur Springs Street Railway today became unmanageable and run down a heavy grade. The car was full of passengers, many of whom were injured. Those most seriously hurt are:

Mrs. G. F. Dawson, Washington, injuries to back and head.

E. F. Wiltz, Charleston, N. C., arm and leg broken.

Mrs. James Dickson, Charleston, injured in the neck and shoulder.

Miss Fannie Oroke, Charleston, arm bruised.

Mrs. M. L. Neuffer, Orangeburg, S. C., neck injured.

All were summer visitors.

UVAIDE, Tex., Aug. 31.—A terrible catastrophe befel this thriving town last night, and today there is mourning in many households. The treacherous Leona river, swollen to a raging torrent by recent rains, rushed, without a moment's warning, down upon the town, submerging and wrecking many houses and drowning a number of people. In this section such destruction by the elements has never before been chronicled. In the excitement of the day it is not definitely known how many have been drowned.